

Customs Modernization

October 2001 Status Update for Oversight Organizations

Modernization at-a-Glance

Timeline

February 2002: Anticipate Task Order 3 (Requirements) completion

High Praise for Customs Modernization Source Selection Team

The Interagency Resources Management Conference (IRMCO) presented the U.S. Customs Modernization Source Selection Team with its Award for Team Achievement on September 5. The prestigious IRMCO Award is granted to agencies that demonstrate exceptional ability to operate across organizational boundaries to improve the government's service to its citizens. The Customs Modernization Office (CMO) Source Selection Team has been honored with the IRMCO Award for its strong leadership and model acquisition process.

Customs Modernization Moves Forward

Customs Modernization is a long-term team effort involving not only Customs but also mission partners—like the trade community and participating government agencies. The Customs Modernization Office (CMO) is working hard to ensure the right people and resources are in place at the right time to proactively and effectively plan, develop, and implement a world-class trade management system, the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), that meets Customs mission needs and those of our partners.

Another major milestone for the Modernization Program occurred on August 13 when Customs authorized the Modernization Systems Integration Contractor, e-Customs Partnership (eCP), to begin work on Task Orders 1 (Program Management), 2 (Enterprise Architecture and Engineering), and 3 (ACE Requirements and Planning) while contract negotiations were completed.

In August, the Trade Support Network (TSN) submitted

requirements to the Trade User Requirements Integration Committee. This committee, comprised primarily of the Customs and Trade co-chairs, reviewed the TSN input and submitted its findings to the CMO for consideration in the design of ACE.

The International Trade Data System (ITDS) Board of Directors, which includes Customs executive officers and participating government agencies, has also been working hand-in-hand with the CMO in gathering requirements for the modernized trade system. The Board has developed high-level requirements for the overall development of ACE. ITDS is an initiative to integrate government-wide systems for the electronic collection, use, and dissemination of international trade data.

Customs has received the first deliverables from the eCP. These include the prototype of a Modernization web portal. This portal contains a suite of tools to assist in managing the program. With these first steps, ACE is gathering momentum and moving full speed ahead!

"I couldn't be more proud of the CMO Source Selection Team's achievement on receiving the IRMCO award. The team helped set a firm foundation for a successful Modernization program."

*Charles R. Armstrong,
Executive Director of the CMO*

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Customs Modernization:
New World, New Tools